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Letter dated 29 June 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have been instructed by my Government to bring to your attention the escalation of terrorism and violence in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, as well as pressure and harassment against the Serbs and other non-Albanians, especially in the areas from which a large number of them have already been expelled. Particularly gruesome instances of atrocities have been the killing of people on the doorstep of their homes or in the field during agricultural work, stealing of livestock and attacks on economic establishments, all of them aimed at forcing the Serbs and other non-Albanians to leave their ancestral homes and Kosovo and Metohija altogether.

The Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) have failed to create minimum security conditions for Serbs and other non-Albanians. Their freedom of movement is extremely limited in such a way they are denied the basic preconditions for the exercise of any other right. Enclaves in which they live, roads within and between them and convoys providing humanitarian aid to the enclaves are increasingly becoming targets of terrorist attacks even though they are supposedly provided security by KFOR and UNMIK. In the past two months, no case of terrorist attack has been solved and no perpetrator apprehended. No instigator or organizer behind those attacks has been discovered, either. Instead, KFOR and UNMIK blockade Serbian and non-Albanian enclaves and disrupt communications between them, arrest Serbs only on false reports of Albanians, often seizing them from hospital beds, and even open fire on frightened and exasperated Serbs protesting their situation.

The symbols of Serbian presence in Kosovo and Metohija, such as Orthodox churches, monasteries and other cultural and religious shrines, are also targets of terrorist attacks. About 100 of them have been looted, burned or destroyed. A glaring example of this modern-day vandalism was the mortar attack on the Decani monastery, the treasure of Serbian religion and culture, on the night of 21/22 June.

Against the background of these atrocities, reports are being submitted on the alleged successes of the United Nations mission in Kosovo and Metohija. It is claimed that the terrorist so-called Kosovo Liberation Army has been demilitarized and disarmed at a time when large caches of heavy weapons, like the one in the village of Klecka, are being discovered or when a fierce mortar attack on the Decani monastery is being carried out. It is also claimed that security is being improved as

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Albanian extremists step up their terrorist activities aimed at completing the ethnic cleansing of the remaining Serbs and non-Albanians. Also, the calls of the leaders of ethnic Albanians for tolerance and coexistence in the circumstances ring very hollow indeed.

The atrocities are taking place at a time when the Security Council is debating and deciding the future of the international presences in Kosovo and Metohija and when measures are being taken to hold local elections despite the absence of the most elementary conditions for such elections. In those conditions and short of a full and consistent implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, the holding of local elections in Kosovo and Metohija is unacceptable for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

I wish to recall that, upon instructions of my Government, I have written to the Security Council on a number of occasions to bring to its attention the disastrous situation in Kosovo and Metohija and to request a meeting to consider the situation. Yet I have been denied even a courtesy reply and the Security Council has taken no measure whatsoever to stamp out and reverse the lamentable course of events even though, under the provisions of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and its earlier decisions, it is responsible for the situation in that southern province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia.

In enclosing a short overview of terrorist acts committed by the members of the terrorist so-called Kosovo Liberation Army in Kosovo and Metohija from 24 May to 26 June 2000 (see annex), I kindly request your assistance in having it circulated, along with the present letter, as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex to the letter dated 29 June 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Terrorist acts committed by the terrorists of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent republic of Serbia, between 24 May and 26 June 2000

1. Murder of Vladimir Ilic, 50, at his doorstep at Vitina on 24 May.
2. Attack on Serbs in the village of Dobrotin, Municipality of Lipljan, on 26 May, on which occasion four Serbs were gravely wounded.
3. Throwing of a hand grenade on a Serbian cafe at Bresje on 26 May, on which occasion five Serbs were gravely wounded.
4. Setting a fire in the Trepca complex in southern Kosovska Mitrovica on 26 May, which caused enormous material damage.
5. Attack on a group of Serbs in front of a store in the village of Cernica, Municipality of Gnjilane, on 28 May, on which occasion Tihomir Trifunovic, Vojin Vasic and the 5-year-old Milos Petrovic were killed and two other Serbs were gravely wounded.
6. Armed attacks on a local police patrol in the village of Konculj on 23 and 24 May and a mortar attack on the members of local police in the village of Lucane on 30 May.
7. Attack on Serbs in the village of Klokot, Municipality of Vitina, on 31 May, on which occasion Lepterka Marinkovic, 67, was killed and another three Serbs were gravely wounded.
8. Murder of Milutin Trajkovic, 33, in the village of Babin Most, Municipality of Obilic, on 31 May.
9. Murder of Iso Heta, a retired member of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Serbia, end of May.
10. Throwing of a hand grenade on the house of Djordje Velickovic at Obilic on 1 June, on which occasion Misko Todorovic was gravely wounded.
11. Killing of two Serbs, Sinisa Dimic and Vlastimir Milic, and wounding of three other Serbs, two of them under-age children, in an automobile which ran over an anti-tank mine planted by Albanian terrorists the night before on the road between the Serbian villages of Ugljari and Preoce near Pristina on 2 June.
12. Burning of a number of Serbian houses in Prizren and Decani on 3 June.
13. Continued arbitrary arrests of Serbs by KFOR and UNMIK, of which one of the most drastic examples was the arrest, at Gracanica on 7 June, of Nebojsa Stojanovic, 30, who was apprehended while in an intensive care unit following a serious injury sustained after KFOR opened automatic fire at Serbs protesting the terror of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army.

14. Brutal attack and wounding of Jovan Cerovic, 55, by 10 terrorists with clubs at Obilic on 8 June.

15. Burning of a number of Serbian houses at Obilic on 9 June.

16. Abduction of Safet Pucurica, 37, from Kosovska Mitrovica, on the Vucitrn-Kosovska Mitrovica road on 10 June.

17. Armed attack on an automobile driven by four Goranci near Orcus, Municipality of Gora, on 9 June, on which occasion one of them was wounded.

18. Burning of Serbian houses at Obilic and the dynamiting of Roma houses in the village of Novo Rujce, Municipality of Lipljan, on 10 June.

19. Setting a fire in the Serbian restaurant "Lotos" on 10 June.

20. Mortar attack on Serbian houses at Orahovac on 12 and 13 June.

21. Mortar attack on Serbian houses at Oblic on 14 June.

22. Abduction of a 14-year-old girl in Pristina on 14 June.

23. Killing of Zlatibor Denic and Borko Filipovic and the wounding of Dejan Filipovic, who lost both his arms and legs, in an automobile which ran over an anti-tank mine planted by the terrorists of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army on the road between the villages of Preoce and Lepina on 15 June.

24. Attacks on humanitarian convoys headed towards Strpce in the villages of Radivojce and Pozarane on 30 May and 16 June.

25. Mortar attack on the Decani monastery near Pec, built in 1335, which is one of the treasures of Serbian cultural heritage, housing frescoes of great value and a large number of manuscripts and icons, on the night of 21/22 June.

26. Throwing of a hand grenade on the house of Toma Ivkovic in Gnjilane on 21 June, on which occasion Mr. Ivkovic's mother was wounded.

27. Brutal abduction of Vlada, 80, and Persa, 50, Miletic in the village of Mali Trnovac, Municipality of Bujanovac, on 21 June. Their fate is unknown.

28. Abduction of Bozidar Markovic, 60, in the village of Susice, Municipality of Strpci, on 23 June.

29. Abduction of 14-year-old Jovica Milic in the village of Susice, Municipality of Strpce, on 24 June, while tending his herd. He managed to escape, sustaining serious injuries and psychological stress.

30. Mortar attack on Serbian houses in the village of Velika Hoca, Municipality of Orahovac, on 24 June.

31. Abduction of Tomislav Markovic on the Podujevo-Pristina road on 24 June.

32. Murder of Kica Milanovic, 50, on his doorstep at Kosovo Polje on 25 June.

33. Attempt to abduct Milorad Soric in front of his house in Orahovac on 26 June, on which occasion he was seriously injured.